This highway *Design Manual* has been prepared as a guide for our engineering personnel. It provides policies, procedures, and methods for developing and documenting the design of improvements to the transportation network in Washington State.

The manual is to supplement the engineering analysis and judgment that must be applied to both new highway construction and reconstruction of specific features of existing highways. It is also intended to provide uniform procedures for implementing design decisions and to assure continuity of the quality of highways throughout the state. It is recognized that the practices suggested in this manual, because of fiscal limitations or other reasons, have been or will be inappropriate for some projects.

Updating the manual is a continuing process and revisions are issued periodically. Questions, observations, and recommendations are invited. The next page is provided to encourage comments and assure their prompt delivery. Use copies of it to transmit comments and attachments, such as marked copies of manual pages. For clarification of the content of the manual, contact the Design Office in the Olympia Service Center.

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